

## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /003 R

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DRAFTED BY:S/WF:DESHAUGHNESSY:KLP

APPROVED BY:S/WF:DESHAUGHNESSY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

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FODAG

PLEASE PASS TO AMB EDWIN MARTIN, USDEL, THIRD PREPCOM, WORLD  
FOOD CONFERENCE

FOL REPEAT MOSCOW 14022 SENT ACTION SECSTATE SEP 16 QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 14022

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, TGEN, UR, UR

SUBJ: US-USSR AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE:

FORECASTING AND DATA COLLECTION TEAM

DEPARTMENT PASS AGRICULTURE FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY YEUTTER,  
US-USSR SECRETARIAT, EUROPEAN AREA OFFICER

1. FORECASTING TEAM MET WITH RUNOV AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 13.  
IN RESPONSE TO HIS QUERY, TEAM EXPRESSED ITS UNANIMOUS  
DISSATISFACTION WITH TRIP, EMPHASIZING LACK OF ADVANCE NOTICE  
OF PROGRAM DETAILS AND REPEATED CHANGES IN PROGRAM, WITHHOLDING  
OF STATISTICAL FORMS AND PUBLICATIONS, EXCESSIVE CENSORING OF  
FIELD DISCUSSIONS BY ACCOMPANYING MOSCOW OFFICIALS, DIFFICULTY  
IN GAINING ACCESS TO ACTUAL STATISTICAL AND FARM OPERATIONS,  
AND OTHER OBSTACLES APPARENTLY SET UP TO THWART MISSION.

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2. RUNOV RESPONDED THAT US DELEGATIONS ARE SELDOM DISSATISFIED

WITH VISITS. SORRY THIS TEAM IS EXCEPTION, BUT FEELS THAT TEAM REACTION TO TRIP TOGETHER WITH WASHINGTON RECALL OF SPRING WHEAT TEAM MAY BE US EFFORT TO DISCREDIT AGREEMENT. RUNOV INDICATED WHEAT TEAM MEMBERS SATISFIED WITH PROGRAM AS PRESENTED IN MOSCOW, BUT NEVERTHELESS RECALLED BY WASHINGTON. IF US DOES NOT WANT IMPROVED RELATIONS, PERHAPS SHOULD STOP AND/OR APPRAISE AGREEMENT. PRESENT US ATTITUDE AS EXEMPLIFIED BY THESE TWO TEAMS DOES NOT SERVE AGREEMENT.

3. RUNOV NOTED THAT FORECASTING DELEGATION WAS UNUSUAL MISSION AND BROKE NEW GROUND. USSR MUST KEEP STATE SECRETS WHILE US SYSTEM IS OPEN. THEREFORE SYSTEMS ARE INCOMPATIBLE. BOTH SIDES WOULD BE SURPRISED IF DELEGATION COMPLETELY SATISFIED. OUR JOB OBVIOUSLY TO LEARN ALL POSSIBLE. MRS. TRESORUKOVA ADDED THAT IT WAS EXPLAINED IN WASHINGTON AT MAY MEETING THAT EXTENSIVE TRAVEL IN USSR TO STUDY STATISTICS NOT NECESSARY; USSR STATISTICAL SYSTEM IS UNIFORM AND CENTRALIZED. SOVIET SIDE TRIED TO BE HOSPITABLE, BUT LAW PREVENTS GIVING SOME INFORMATION.

4. RUNOV RAISED QUESTION OF BALANCE IN AGREEMENT WITH MORE US THAN USSR DELEGATIONS. US SIDE NOTED THAT ECONOMIC WORKING GROUP WAS IN AGREEMENT TO GET BALANCE FROM US; AND BECAUSE OF PRESENT WORLD GRAIN SITUATION AND INTERRELATIONSHIP OF WORLD GRAIN ECONOMY, THERE WERE GOOD REASONS FOR EXCHANGING ECONOMIC INFORMATION IRRESPECTIVE OF AGREEMENT. COULD NOT SEE WHERE USSR ATTITUDE TOWARD ECONOMIC SIDE OF AGREEMENT WAS HELPING US FARMERS.

5. US TEAM FEELS RUNOV HELD THIS MEETING IN EFFORT TO PREVENT REPEAT OF NEGATIVE PRESS REPORTS WHICH FOLLOWED RECAL OF SPRING WHEAT TEAM. HE INDICATED HIS HOPE THAT FORECASTING TEAM WOULD NOT HAVE NEGATIVE PRESS CONSEQUENCE. THIS WOULD HAVE NEGATIVE EFFECT ON RELATIONS. MEETING ENDED ON THIS CONCILIATORY NOTE.

6. DESPITE FRUSTRATIONS, DELEGATION BELIEVES IT GLEANED ENOUGH NEW INFORMATION TO JUSTIFY TRIP. DELEGATION HAS RESCHEDULED MOSCOW DEPARTURE TO SEPTEMBER 18 FOR LONDON, WITH PROBABLE RETURN TO WASHINGTON ON SEPTEMBER 23.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, AGRICULTURAL AGREEMENTS, DEBRIEFINGS, MEETING DELEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 SEP 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE204438  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** S/WF:DESHAUGHNESSY:KLP  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ORIGIN SWF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24 MAY 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US-USSR AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE: FORECASTING AND DATA COLLECTION TEAM  
**TAGS:** EAGR, TGEN, UR, US  
**To:** ROME  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005